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(58) Field of search

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(54) Wrapping, particularly for potted plants

(57) A truncated conical wrapping for a potted plant (13, 14) comprises two layers of foil (1, 2) welded together along the sides at (3) and along the bottom (6, 7) at (4, 5). V-shaped cut-outs (10) in the bottom form two side flaps (6) and an intermediate piece (7). When a pot is lowered into the wrapping, it unfolds and side flaps (6) come to lie on piece (7) to form a flat bottom with water drainage slits along the side edges of pieces (7).

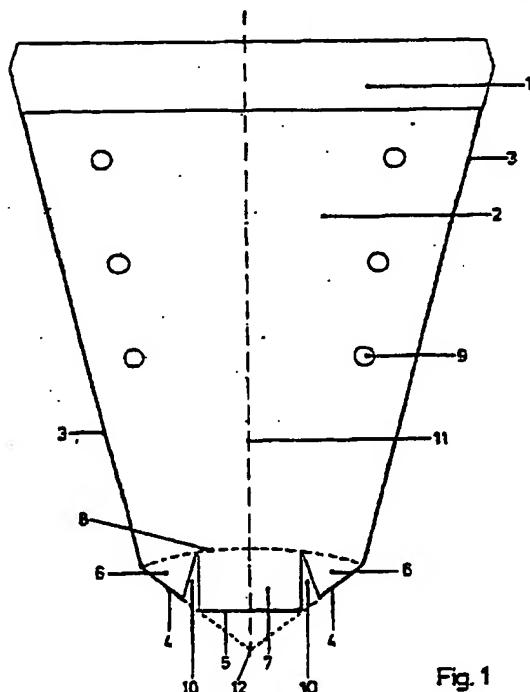


Fig. 1

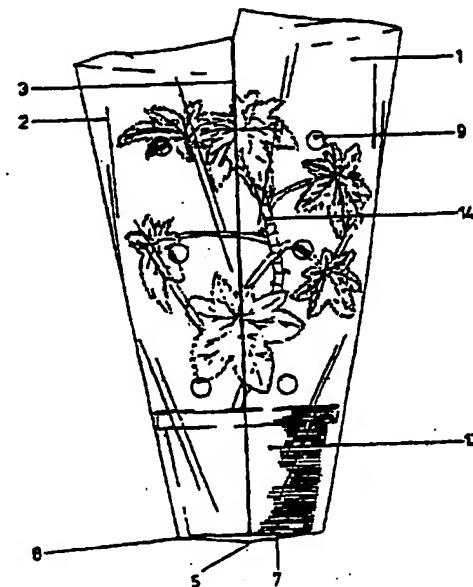


Fig. 3

GB 2 212 136 A

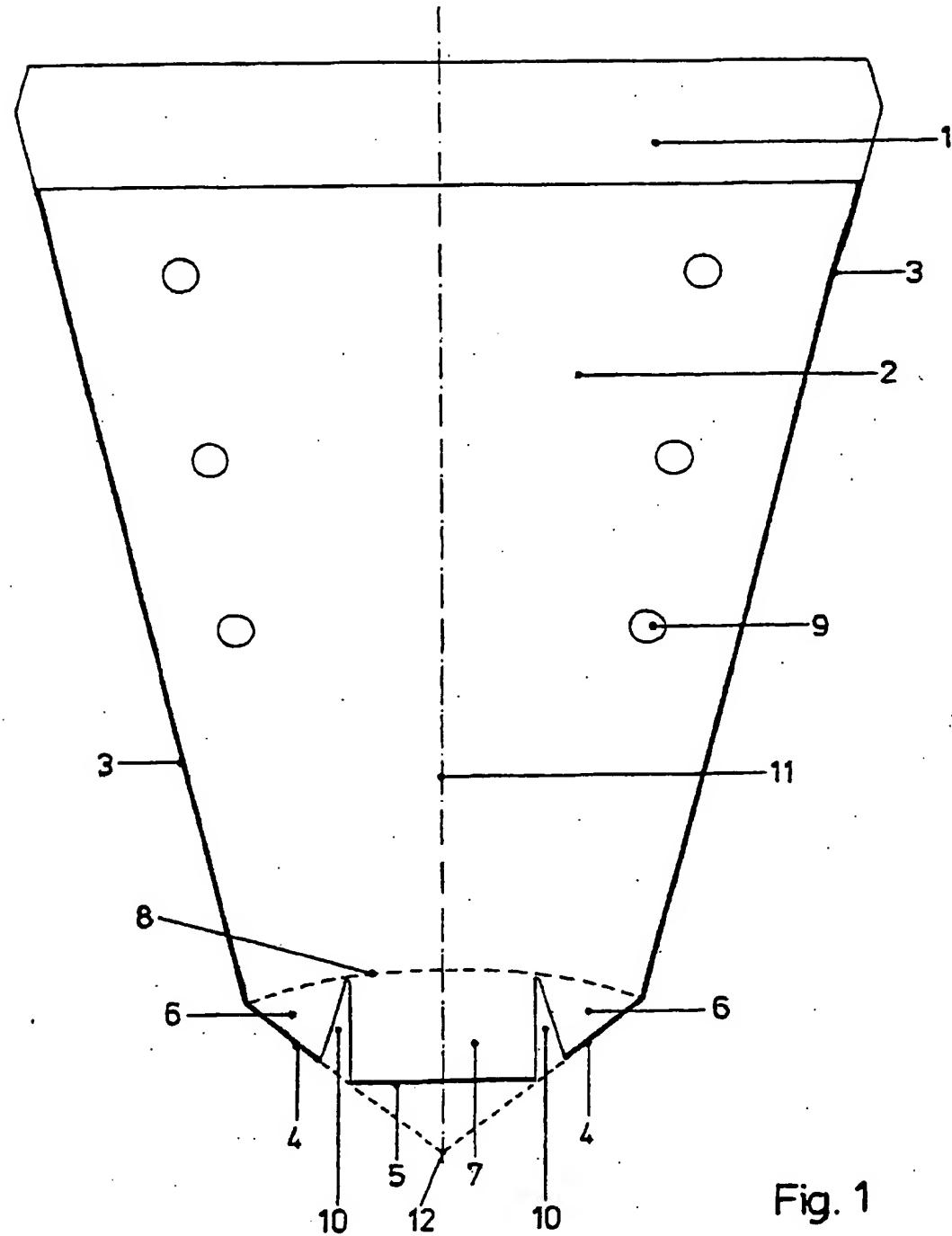


Fig. 1

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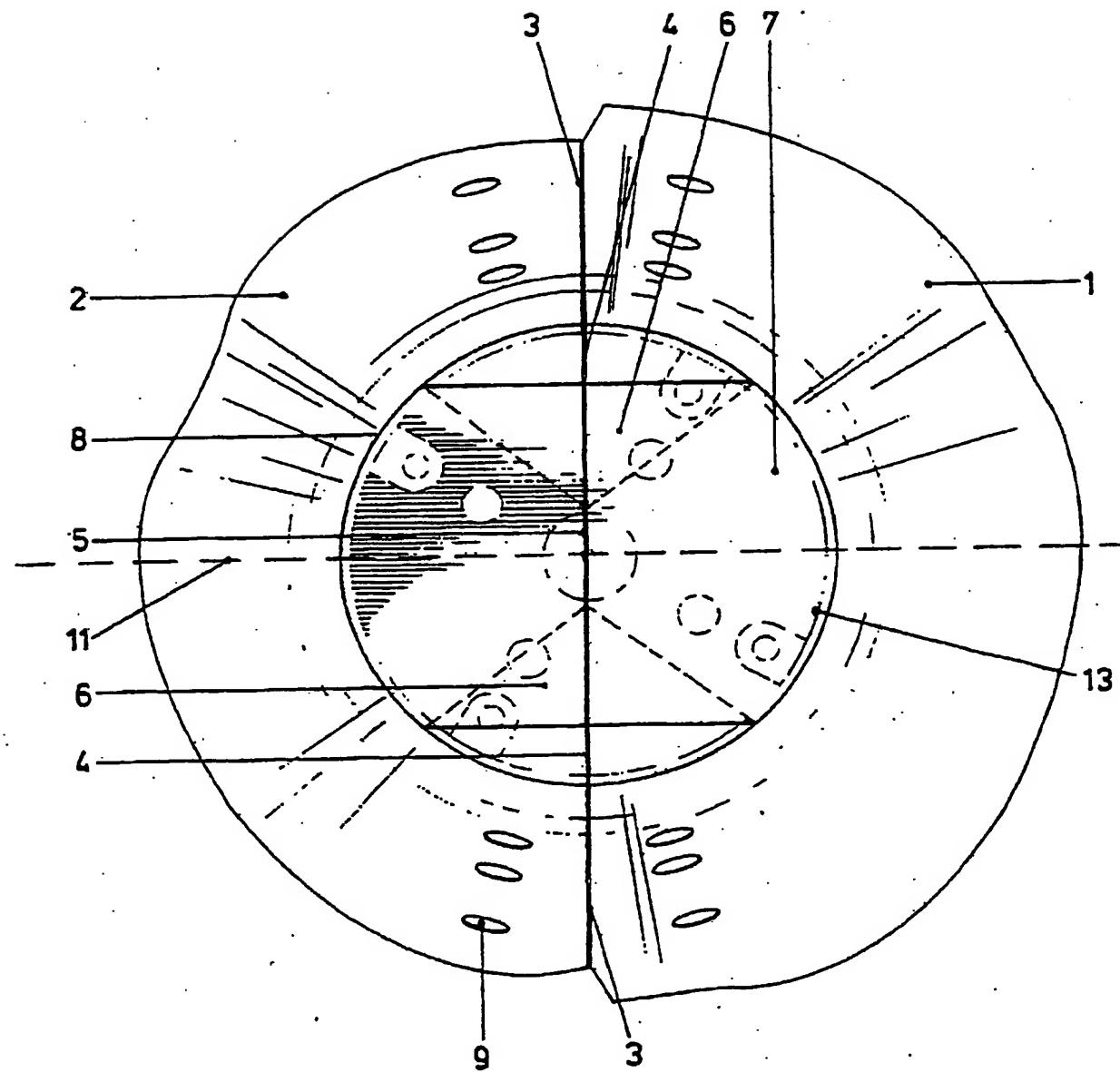


Fig. 2

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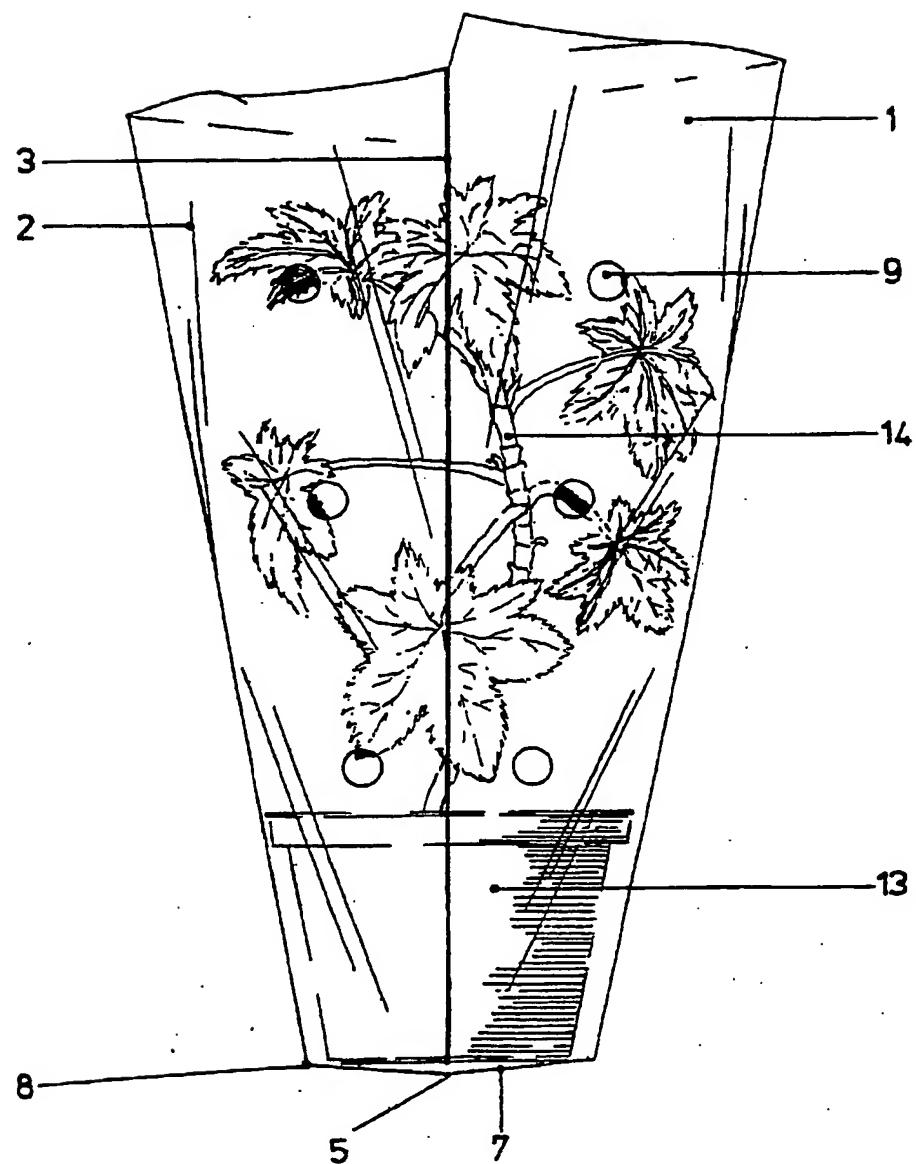


Fig. 3

WRAPPING, PARTICULARLY FOR POTTED PLANTS

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5 The invention relates to a wrapping particularly for potted plants, in the shape of a bag comprising a preferably truncated cover and a bottom in which a potted plant can rest, the said cover and bottom being produced of two pieces of foil welded together
10 from the top edge of the cover and along the sides.

15 Wrappings of this kind are used as sales package for especially potted plants the reason being that because they are produced of a transparent plastic foil, they allow the customer to see the plant while at the same time protecting the plant against damage during handling.

20 Add to this that the individual plants are easily handled in that it is possible to lift up a plant from e.g. a display shelf or the like by catching at the top of the foil and lifting the bag with the plant up and free of the other neighbouring plants.

25 Finally it is possible to water the plants while they remain in the wrapping at no risk of smothering them since the bottom can be perforated so as to permit water to drain off. In this manner the plants can remain in their wrapping at no risk of being damaged.
30

Hitherto known wrappings of this kind are produced of truncated foil pieces welded together along their two bevelled side seams and along the straight bottom seam extending at right angles to the centre line of

the foil pieces. The length of the bottom seam is larger than the diameter of the pot bottom in order to make sure that the plant can slide right to the bottom of the bag and rest thereon.

5

The foil in the bottom does, however, leave a "superfluous" tip at each side of the wrapping which cause an uneven bottom surface and thus an unstable support for the pot. The plants will therefore easily overturn if they do not rest against anything, or if no depression is provided in a package in which they can be secured.

10 If they overturn the whole sales display may be ruined, the plant become damaged e.g. by falling completely or partially out of its pot. Moreover, they can only stand upright if they are squeezed down into a special package with holes.

15 20 It is the object of the invention to overcome this drawback of the known wrapping bags, and this is achieved by means of a wrapping where the foil pieces at the bottom are provided with a cut on each side of their centre line, said slits extending as a V-shaped cut from the lower end edge to the folding line at the passage between cover and bottom.

25 30 A wrapping bottom is hereby produced which can be folded up so that it forms a flat bottom when a pot is placed in the bag. When a pot is pressed down the two outer side pieces closest to the side weld form two flaps pointing toward the centre of the bottom, and the intermediate piece forms a strip extending across the bottom and covering the tips of the two

flaps.

5 The parts are then folded so that no bulges or wrinkles occur at the bottom, just as the two flaps are held in position between the bottom piece and the pot bottom, where the weight of the pot plant presses the flaps toward the bottom and fixes the bottom. 10 Additionally, water can pass along the side edges of the intermediate strip so that perforation of the bottom is not required in order to ensure that the plant can either absorb water from a water-bearing base or is able to drain off superfluous water.

15 Moreover, the folding of the bottom will be so plane that there is no risk of soil or sphagnum escaping, since this must be avoided in order to comply with hygiene standards for the application of plastic wrappings in food stores.

20 By having the welding seam of the side flaps extend toward a point below the foil bottom, as presented in claim 2, the two flaps become suitably dimensioned to form two flat pieces in their unfolded condition lying close to the pot bottom.

25 Finally it is expedient, as presented in claim 3, that the intermediate strip has a straight bottom seam and a certain size relative to the pot in that this provides a fairly precise foil bottom for 30 obtaining a flat bottom surface with no superfluous material at the sides.

In the following the invention will be explained in more detail with reference to the drawing, where

Fig. 1 shows a slitted and welded together foil wrapping prior to being unfolded,

5 Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the wrapping with a pot, and

Fig. 3 is a side view of the wrapping with a pot.

10 The drawing shows an example of an embodiment of a wrapping according to the invention.

15 As shown in fig. 1, the wrapping consists of two layers of foil 1 and 2 being welded together along the sides 3 and the bottom 4 and 5.

15 In the shown example the foil pieces have different heights so that it is easier to take hold of the wrapping in order to lift it.

20 Holes 9 are punched in the foil pieces 1 and 2 so that necessary ventilation of the plant is provided when it is placed in the wrapping.

25 A dotted line in fig. 1 indicates a curved line 8 at the bottom which may be stamped in the foil in order that a circular bottom is more easily formed when the plant pot is inserted.

30 The folding line 8 is curved so as to describe a circle in its unfolded condition corresponding to the outer diameter of the pot bottom, as shown in fig. 2.

Moreover, two punches or slits 10 having a V-shape are made from beneath and inwards toward the folding

line 8 for the formation of two side flaps 6 and an intermediate piece 7.

5 At the sides the two flaps 6 are welded together along a straight line 4 extending toward a point 12 below the bottom 7 on the centre line 11.

10 At its lower end the intermediate bottom piece 7 proper is welded together along a line 5 at right angles to the centre line 11 in a distance from the folding line 8 corresponding to the radius of the bottom.

15 Thus punched and welded the wrapping will unfold, as shown in figs. 2 and 3, when a pot is lowered.

20 By the distension the two side flaps 6 will form flaps which will lie on top of the bottom piece 7, as shown in fig. 2. A completely flat bottom is then obtained while the folding is effected which will leave no loose, i.e. projecting tips or flaps. As shown in fig. 3 a discharge slit is formed along the sides of the bottom piece 7 which is sufficient in order that any superfluous water can drain off. However, soil or sphagnum cannot fall out, because the parts lie so close together that such growth products cannot pass through.

25 The production of this wrapping is no more expensive than the production of the hitherto known ones, but considerably cheaper in use since for one the expensive shelves or frames with holes in which the pots can be placed with no risk of overturning can be omitted, and secondly because the wrapping according

to the invention has so many advantages that the hitherto known wrappings do not have.

5 Hence, it is a considerable advantage that the individual plants can be placed in the wrapping on a plane surface without overturning which partly facilitates the handling in the retail shop, and partly makes it easier for the consumer to place the plants.

10 By suitable dimensioning of the wrapping, this can be adapted to any pot size so that the wrapping will rest closely and consequently completely smoothly against the pot. This gives a nice and attractive appearance and the plant will look its best.

15

CLAIMS

1. Wrapping particularly for potted plants in the shape of a bag comprising a preferably truncated cover and a bottom in which a potted plant can rest, the said cover and bottom being produced of two pieces of foil welded together from the top edge of the cover and along the sides, characterized in that the foil pieces at the bottom are provided with a cut (10) on each side of their centre line (11), said slits (10) extending as a V-shaped cut from the lower end edge (4, 5) to a folding line (8) at the passage between the cover (1, 2) and the bottom (6, 7).

15 2. Wrapping according to claim 1, characterized in that the welding seam (4) of the foil pieces from the folding line (8) to the slit (10) extends along a straight line to a top point (12) on the centre line (11), said top point (12) lying below the bottom (7).

20 3. Wrapping according to claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the welding seam (5) of the bottom piece (7) between the slits (10) extends at right angles to the centre line (11) and at its point of intersection with the centre line has a distance from the folding line (8) which is larger than or equal to that of the radius of the bottom of the plant pot (13).

25 30 4. Wrapping substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.